JOINT MESSAGEFORM

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

SPACE BELOW RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER

XLIX

PRECEDENCE	TYPE MSG (Check)			ACCOUNTING SYMBOL	ORIG. OR REFERS TO	CLASSIFICATION OF REFERENCE
ACTION	BOOK	MULTI	SINGLE			
INFO						

FROM:
6595 AEROSPACE TEST WG VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF.

TO:
SPACE SYSTEMS DIV LOSA CALIF
VWED-29-9-29

SUBJECT: 8-HOUR LAUNCH FLASH REPORT

1. A PROGRAM 162 SATELLITE VEHICLE CONSISTING OF THOR BOOSTER NO. 349 AND AGENA D ORBITAL STAGE NO. 1153 WAS LAUNCHED ON THE SECOND ATTEMPT FROM VAFB COMPLEX 75-1 PAD 2 AT 1800:36 PDT ON 28 AUG. 1962. THE PRIMARY LAUNCH OBJECTIVE, TO PLACE THE AGENA SATELLITE WITH PAYLOAD IN A NEAR-POLAR ORBIT WAS ACCOMPLISHED. THE VTS RADAR PLOTBOARD INDICATED THE FOLLOWING APPROXIMATE INJECTION CONDITIONS: ALTITUDE, 130 STATUTE MILES; PAD REFERENCED VELOCITY, 25050 FPS; ELEVATION FLIGHT PATH ANGLE, APPROXIMATELY 0 DEG; AZIMUTH FLIGHT PATH ANGLE, APPROXIMATELY 153 DEG. THE ORBITAL PERIOD ATTAINED APPEARS TO BE NEAR-NOMINAL, BASED ON FIRST PASS ACQUISITION.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

By Authority of [redacted] AFR 205-3 7 APR 1965

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO [redacted]

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10

29 0900Z

DATE	TIME
29	0100
MONTH	YEAR
Aug	

WRITER

SYMBOL

TYPED NAME AND TITLE (Signature, if required)
C. S. WALLER, LT. COL. USAF

PHONE 866-5831 | PAGE NR. 1 | NR. OF PAGES

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

RELEASER

SIGNATURE

TYPED (or stamped) NAME AND TITLE

DD FORM 1 MAY 55 173 REPLACES DD FORM 173, 1 OCT 49, WHICH WILL BE USED UNTIL EXHAUSTED

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FROM:

6595 AEROSPACE TEST WG VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF.

PRELIMINARY VALUES OF SIGNIFICANT LAUNCH EVENTS ARE:

LIFTOFF (1800:36 PDT)	ZERO	
STEERING INITIATED	92.04	SEC
MECO (S1)	145.74	SEC
VECO	154.83	SEC
ENABLE D1 AND D2 (S2)	150.63	SEC
D1 ON	153.35	SEC
D1 OFF	154.81	SEC
D2 ON	154.92	SEC
D2 OFF	160.39	SEC
SEPARATION COMMAND (S3)	160.78	SEC
SEPARATION COMPLETE	163.3	SEC
ULLAGE ROCKET IGNITION	186.67	SEC
AGENA ENGINE IGNITION	196.6	SEC
AGENA THRUST ATTAINMENT (90 PER CENT PC)	198.79	SEC
AGENA BURNOUT (70 PER CENT PC)	435.23	SEC
VTS VERLORT RADAR FADE	448	SEC
VTS ACQUISITION BEACON FADE	484	SEC
VTS TELEMETRY DATA FADE (LINK 1)	480	SEC

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[redacted]

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FROM: [redacted]

6595 AEROSPACE TEST WG VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF.

II. ALL BOOSTER SUBSYSTEMS PERFORMED SATISFACTORILY AND, IN RESPONSE TO GROUND GUIDANCE SYSTEM COMMANDS, PROVIDED THE REQUIRED COAST APOGEE CONDITIONS. [redacted].

GROUND GUIDANCE SYSTEM DATA INDICATE THAT BOOSTER COAST APOGEE ALTITUDE WAS 106.77 NM (NOMINAL 106.40 NM) AND THE VELOCITY WAS 10,074 FPS (NOMINAL: 10,070 FPS).

III. ALL AGENA VEHICLE SUBSYSTEMS PERFORMED SATISFACTORILY DURING LAUNCH TO PROVIDE THE PROPER TRAJECTORY CONDITIONS AT AGENA ENGINE SHUTDOWN; HOWEVER, THE FOLLOWING WAS NOTED:

A SLIGHT DIFFERENCE IN THE CONTROL ACTIVITY, WHICH HAD NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON TRAJECTORY OR CONTROL GAS CONSUMPTION WAS NOTED. THE HORIZON SENSOR OUTPUTS SHOWED A LOW AMPLITUDE VARIATION DURING THE THRUST INTERVAL APPARENTLY DUE TO A LOWER THAN USUAL DAMPING IN THE PITCH AND ROLL LOOPS. THE CONTROL GAS PRESSURE INDICATED A NORMAL CONSUMPTION OF CONTROL GAS DURING ASCENT.

AT THE TIME OF SIGNAL FADE AT VTS, ALL VEHICLE SUBSYSTEMS WERE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY AND THE

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FROM: [redacted]

6595 AEROSPACE TEST WG VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF.

ORBITAL TIMER WAS SET AT 5407 SEC (STEP 16), IN THE RESET-ON- POSITION, IN THE INCREASE MODE, AND ALTERNATE RE-ENTRY DISARM STATE.

IV. AEROSPACE GROUND EQUIPMENT FUNCTIONED SATISFACTORILY EXCEPT:

(1) AN AMPLIFIER IN THE LMEC PAD ELECTRICAL TRAILER MALFUNCTIONED AND WAS REPLACED.

(2) A NITROGEN SUPPLY HOSE FOR THE PAYLOAD WAS DAMAGED DURING VEHICLE ERECTION AND WAS REPLACED.

V COUNTDOWN

THIS WAS THE FIRST THOR-AGENA VEHICLE TO BE LAUNCHED FROM PAD 2, COMPLEX 75(1 AND THE THIRD AGENA VEHICLE MODEL D DESIGN TO BE LAUNCHED.

THE VEHICLE WAS LAUNCHED ON THE SECOND COUNTDOWN ATTEMPT. THE FINAL COUNTDOWN ATTEMPT WAS INITIATED AT 1000 PDT ON AUGUST 28, 1962 AND LIFTOFF OCCURRED AT 1800:36 PDT. NO HOLDS WERE IMPOSED. THE ONLY INCIDENT OCCURRED DURING VEHICLE ERECTION WHEN A RUBBER HOSE WHICH CARRIES NITROGEN GAS UP THE MAST TO THE PAYLOAD SECTION WAS DAMAGED. THE HOSE

SYMBAS REPLACED.

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

FROM:

6595 AEROSPACE TEST WG VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF [redacted]

THE FIRST GO UNTDOWN, INITIATED AT 0930 PDT ON 27 AUGUST 1962, WAS CANCELLED IN TASK 7 AT 1455 PDT.

THE MAJOR PROBLEMS THAT OCCURRED WERE:

1) BTL FLIGHT LOCKOUT SWITCH FUNCTIONED ABNORMALLY DUE TO IMPROPER INSTALLATION. THE PROBLEM WAS CORRECTED BEFORE THE FINAL COUNTDOWN.

2) IN TASK 7 THE AGENA VEHICLE ASCENT ANTENNA WAS INOPERATIVE. AFTER EVALUATION THE LAUNCH WAS POSTPONED DUE TO INSUFFICIENT TIME TO COMPLETE THE COUNTDOWN AND LAUNCH WITHIN THE DESIGNATED TIME "WINDOW". THE AGENA ASCENT ANTENNA WAS REPLACED BEFORE THE FINAL COUNTDOWN.

PAD DAMAGE

ENGINE HEAT AND BLAST CAUSED SLIGHTLY MORE THAN NORMAL AMOUNT OF DAMAGE IN THE AREA OF THE BASE OF THE MAST. PRELIMINARY EVALUATION INDICATES THE PAD RECOVERY SCHEDULE CAN BE MAINTAINED.

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